

The Beacon

"Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart."

Psalm 37:4



Volume 9

May 2024

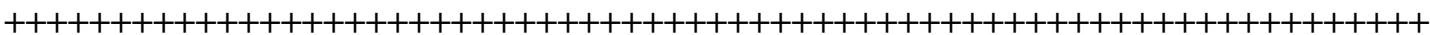
Issue 98

St. James Lutheran Church NALC Telephone: (828) 464-1953 Fax: (828) 465-2084
1942 St. James Church Road Website: stjameslutherannewtonnc.com
Newton, NC 28658 Follow us on Facebook
E-mail church office: secretary@stjameslutherannewtonnc.com

Rev. Kenneth (Ken) Reed Jr.
kenreed803@gmail.com
Pastor, St. James Lutheran Church
1940 St. James Church Rd.
Newton, NC 28658
704.796.1764

Sherrie McKean, Secretary
Office Hours: 9:00 am-1:00 pm
Monday-Friday
Gary Reitzel, Custodian

Council Members: Betty Hawn, David Arndt (Vice Chair), Benjamin Stewart (Secretary), Gary Reitzel, Robin Sigmon, Victor Paquin, Christopher Painter Wesley Stinson, Celia Reece (Treasurer), and Kristen Helton



Greetings in the name of our risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

**FROM
THE
PASTOR**



...**Thanks** to all who made Lent, Holy Week and Easter meaningful; especially, all those who cooked, cleaned, coordinated, planned, sung, lifted and assembled items, moved chairs and tables, played instruments, placed flowers and carried out any responsibility whatsoever. Using your gifts helped make this holy time of year shine.

...**\$ 6,314** was sent to **five middle schools** in Catawba County from the Legacy Fund. These dollars will help satisfy the student school lunch debt for families.

...**\$ 4,800** was sent to **Word of Life Lutheran Church** in Vale NC, which is a mission congregation of the NALC. These funds will assist and promote their new Wednesday night gatherings for families, Vacation Bible School this summer, and other events of this congregation that proclaim Christ to the community.

...**Planning** for a new **adult bible study class** is underway.

...**The High School and Middle School Youth** of St. James assembled disaster readiness kits for the NALC Disaster Response Team on April 14th. For these kits they collected towels and wash cloths, toothpaste and toothbrushes, combs and hairbrushes, and other personal hygiene items.

...**Playground equipment** has been installed. Options and quotes are currently being considered for the playground surface so that it will be safe for our children and simple to maintain.

...**A new Church Sign** has been installed in front of the sanctuary. It will be operational soon when the sign company completes the connection on their end.

...**Vacation Bible School** is being planned for Saturday, July 27th.

...**Monday nights** at St. James continue to be a gathering place for community youth for the Trail Life Boys and American Heritage Girls. On April 8th there were over **thirty young people** here plus adults and parents at the church for their weekly troop meetings and activities.

...**Weekly worship** at St. James continues to be at the center of our faith and life with Christ.

...The **Carolinas Convocation of the NALC** (North American Lutheran Church) will be held on May 3rd and 4th at Trinity Lutheran Church in Little Mountain SC. One other St. James member will join me as a delegate to this annual gathering of congregations and pastors.

...**Graduate Sunday** and a **New Member Class** will be held this spring. Stay tuned for more details.

May God bless you and keep you!

Pastor Ken

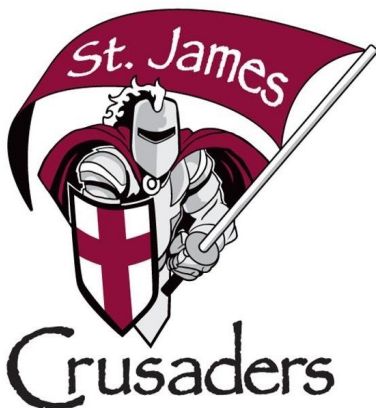
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CCCM gives a big **THANK YOU TO ALL** who have contributed prescription bottles for their ministry. Claire Sipe continues to collect empty bottles and deliver them to CCCM.

If you have medicine bottles that you would like to donate, see Claire. They are very much appreciated.

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The Youth are meeting next Sunday (May 5) at 3:00 p.m. They will also meet on Sunday, May 19 at 3:00 p.m.

We would like to **THANK THE CONGREGATION** for their generosity with their donations of items for the NALC Disaster Relief Healthcare Kits. Pastor Ken will bless these one Sunday.

The dates for the NALC Continental Youth Gathering are July 1st to the 4th and the Mission Trip will be in Elizabeth City, NC from July 14th to the 21st.

MAY ACTIVITIES

The **Mother-Daughter Banquet** is Sat., May 4, at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Building.

The **Youth** will meet on Sunday, May 5 and Sunday, May 19 at 3:00 p.m.

The **Women’s Circle** will meet on Monday, May 6th at 7:00 p.m. in the back of the church.

The **AHG & Trail Life Flag Retirement Ceremony** will be on Monday, May 6th.

The **Evangelism Committee** will meet on Wednesday, May 8th at 6:30 p.m.

The **Church Council** will meet on Wednesday, May 15th at 7:00 p.m.

Corner Table meal packing day is Saturday, May 18th.

The **Men’s Breakfast** will be on Sunday, May 26th at 8:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Building.

Blood Pressure Checks in secretary’s office on Sunday, May 26th following worship.

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WOMEN OF THE CONGREGATION

Planning for **Bazaar**: Yes, it is early — but never too early to start planning!
We plan on having some craft workshops through the year. ALL are invited. As you are beginning to do your spring cleaning there are things that we can use:

- | | | | |
|---------|----------|--------------------|------|
| Buttons | Material | Thread | Yarn |
| Glue | Ribbon | Any craft supplies | |

If you have any, please let Robin know. We will be doing crafts at the May meeting.
There will be a 2nd Sunday lunch in June. Desserts will be appreciated.

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We Have Four Weekly Bible Study Opportunities

Tuesdays @ 7:00 pm (Fellowship Bldg.)
(studying scripture readings for the upcoming Sunday)

Thursdays @ 10:30 am (Sanctuary)
(currently studying the Psalms)

Sundays @ 9:30 am (Fellowship Bldg.)

Sundays @ 9:30 am (Library)



- 4. Natalie Arndt
- 6. Brian Heavner
- 7. Claire Sipe
- 9. Nancy Alle
- 11. Robert Crouch
- 12. Anthony Obrien
- 15. Roger Crouch, Rylee Smith
- 17. Tiffany Beal, Randy Cline
- 18. Frances Sigmon, Jay Sipe
- 19. Joe Teague
- 20. Mary Beth Young
- 21. Soundra Huffman
- 23. Chad Deal
- 24. Kathy Hagan, Jessica Hatley, Victor Lineberger II
- 25. Margorie Moose
- 30. Marie Lingle

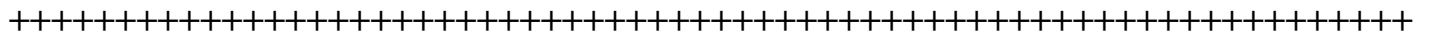


- 1. Donovan Painter, Daniel Sipe
- 2. Stephanie Dixon
- 3. Julia Seitz, Jerry Sipe
- 5. Daniel Clay Sipe
- 10. Ps. Ken Reed, Sue Rogers, Melinda Sipe
- 11. George Young
- 15. Terry Self
- 17. Janice Kelly, Hailee Moose, Jim Sharpe
- 18. Sharon Sipe
- 20. Ruby Sigmon
- 22. Brenda Schlie
- 23. Lori Devine
- 24. Zachery Link, Avalee OBrien
- 25. Ben Devine
- 27. Lisa Chapman
- 28. Stephanie Heavner
- 29. Kevin Sipe
- 30. Clint Burgess, Naia Smith



- 3. Ps. & Mrs. Bob Alle
- 4. Mr. & Mrs. Larry Spriggs; Mr. & Mrs. Chris Valone
- 7. Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Link; Mr. & Mrs. Wrenn Travis
- 29. Mr. & Mrs. Kyle Thompson
- 30. Mr. & Mrs. Clint Burgess

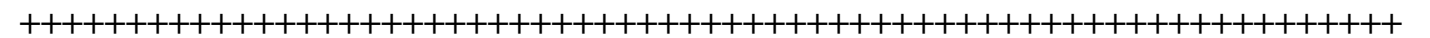
- 2. Mr. & Mrs. Steve Beal; Mr. & Mrs. Bob Lineberger
- 9. Mr. & Mrs. David Hawn
- 11. Mr. & Mrs. David Link
- 15. Mr. & Mrs. David Arndt; Mr. & Mrs. Bill Seitz Jr.
- 19. Mr. & Mrs. Earl Sipe
- 22. Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Cline
- 27. Mr. & Mrs. Wesley Stinson
- 29. Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Stikeleather



THE LAITY TEAM

Laity Team plans to meet monthly to assess the current status of Church members. Prayers, cards, encouragement, and support to each other is our calling from our Lord.

Kristy Painter or Keeley Stikeleather, co-chairs, may be contacted. God's continued blessings and peace to everyone.



IMPORTANT DATES IN MAY

- May 2: National Day of Prayer
- May 9: Ascension of the Lord
- May 12: Mother's Day
- May 18: Armed Forces Day
- May 19: Day of Pentecost
- May 20: Victoria Day
- May 26: Trinity Sunday
- May 27: Memorial Day



EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

The Evangelism Committee would like to thank everyone who attended our Movie Night in April. On Saturday, June 22nd, from 3:00 - 7:00 p.m. there will be an **Outdoor Fun & Game Day**. We hope to have a bouncy house and maybe a dunking booth. Animals from Jeff & Robin Sigmon’s farm will be available for a petting zoo. There will be hotdogs with fixings and drinks. Stay tuned for more information.

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AMERICAN HERITAGE GIRLS

Golf Tournament on Saturday, May 18, Lincoln Country Club, 2052 Country Club Road, Lincolnton, NC 28092. Tee time is 2:00 p.m. Players - \$75.00 Team - \$300.00 Sponsors - \$100.

The AHG will be hosting a **Mother-Daughter Banquet** on May 4th at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Building. Please wear your best Sunday hat for a day at the races.

The AHG and Trail Life will hold a **flag retirement ceremony** on Monday, May 6 at 7:00 p.m. If you have a flag to retire bring it to the church before this date.

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RELAY FOR LIFE

Thanks to all who came out to Relay on Friday night April 27th. We have raised \$2,000 so far. Don’t forget: we will have a Bar-B-Que lunch on Sunday, May 19th as our final fundraiser for this year. **THANKS FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT!**

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SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Safety Committee is doing **Blood Pressure Checks** after church services on the 4th Sundays in the Secretary’s office.

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Larry and Nancy Spriggs are in need of someone who can clean their home once a week. If there is a church member who offers this service or if anyone can recommend a reliable person or company, please let Nancy know. Her cell is 412-996-2958.

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The Evangelism Committee and Social Ministry are asking for the following to fill bags for the Corner Table this month:

- Vienna sausages
- Chips
- Fruit cups
- Granola bars
- Bottled water

If you can contribute to those in need of meals on the weekends, please bring and place on a table outside of the secretary’s office by Sunday, May 12th. The bags will be packed on Saturday, May 18th.

PHOTOS OF ST. JAMES

